

COWBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1947

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Cowbridge Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my tenth report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District drawn up in accordance with circular 170/47 (Wales) issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

The Report for 1947 will be the last report to appear in the present form as the National Health Act, 1946, will deprive the District Council of many of their health functions which have been successfully developed over the years.

It is pleasing to be able to make a special note of the fact that for the first time since records were kept in this area, no positive case of Diphtheria was reported during the year. The immunisation campaign conducted by the Ministry of Health, and actively supported and operated in this area, is at last giving conclusive results of its value.

The Birth Rate of 28.0 per 1,000 population is the highest in this area since 1920. It may be a coincidence that two years after the end of the three wars experienced by the present generation exceptionally high birth rates have been recorded. In 1903 the rate rose to 32.00 while in 1920 it was 30.50 and 1947 28.0.

More use seems to be made of the Ante Natal and Child Welfare Clinics and almost each clinic is able to show an increase in the average attendance.

A matter, not so satisfactory, is the fact that there are almost three times as many cases of Tuberculosis on the register as compared with 1939. This may be due to the extensive medical examination of recruits for the armed forces during the war and to the mass radiography carried out in large works.

I wish to thank the Officers and staff of the Public Health Department for their assistance in the preparation of this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DAVID J. EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1948.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Cowbridge Rural Area borders on to the Southern portion of the South Wales Coalfield and includes, in the South, a good part of the fertile vale of Glamorgan. The area is bordered on the East by the Cardiff Rural District, on the North by the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre R.D.C., while the Penybont R.D.C. are neighbours on the western boundary. The Borough of Cowbridge is situate in the centre of the Rural Area.

The extreme North is hilly, the highest points reaching some 900 feet. In this part there are two important collieries, a by-product works, an iron ore mine, milk factory and furniture factory.

The Central and Southern portion of the area is principally agricultural although a fair portion of the labour is absorbed at the two Royal Air Force Stations (St. Athan and Llandow).

Public Water Mains are now available in each of the 28 Parishes and over 93 per cent. of the total houses in the area are connected. The Villages of Llanharan, Brynna, Thomastown, Ynysmardy, Llanharry and Boverton and Llantwit Major are sewered and 53 per cent. of the houses in the area are drained to these sewers. 66 per cent. of the houses are provided with water closets.

The Council have a refuse collection scheme in operation throughout the whole area (excepting isolated houses) and salvage collection is carried out in the larger villages. A cesspool emptying scheme is now proposed.

Electric light is available in most villages and the remaining hamlets will probably be supplied within the next few years.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	40,020
Population (mid-year 1947—Registrar-General's estimate)	13,110
Number of houses occupied	3,088
Rateable value (March, 1947)	£83,732
Product of a penny rate (March, 1947)	£337 3s. 11d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Birth Rate for Cowbridge Rural Area	28.0
Birth Rate for England and Wales	20.5
Birth Rate of Administrative County of Glamorgan	20.8
Birth Rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan	19.4

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Death Rate for Cowbridge Rural Area	11.1
Death Rate for England and Wales	12.0
Death rate for administrative County of Glamorgan	13.1
Death rate for Rural Districts in Glamorgan	11.5

STILL BIRTHS.

The 12 Still Births constitute a rate of 31.7 per 1000 total Births.

PUERPERAL SEPSIS, ETC.

Deaths from Puerperal and <i>post abortus sepsis</i>	Nil
Deaths from other Maternal causes	Nil

Total	Nil
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DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 births (17)	46.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (13)	37.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (+)	258.7
Deaths from Cancer (all causes)	17
Deaths from Measles (under 2 years)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (under 2 years)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1.—(a) MEDICAL OFFICERS—

D. J. Evans, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), Medical Officer of Health (Part Time), Medical Officer of Health for Cowbridge Borough Council, Certifying Factory Surgeon for the Cowbridge District.

R. Bruce Munro, M.B., B.S. (London) D.P.H. (Wales), Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. (Part time).

(b) OTHER OFFICERS—

Hubert Thomas, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector (whole time). Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board, and Food Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute

Miss E. Rawnsley, Health Visitor and Tuberculosis Visitor (whole time) Full General Training, Qualified Midwife, and Health Visitors Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Philip Battrick, Technical assistant for Housing Survey.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

BIRTHS REGISTERED—(Local records)

Legitimate live births born in area	.....	174
Legitimate live births born out of district and transferred	.....	197
Legitimate still-births born in area	.....	7
Legitimate still-births born out of District	.....	6
Illegitimate live births born in area	.....	5
Illegitimate live births born out of district and transferred	.....	3

TOTAL 392

NOTIFIED WITHIN 36 HOURS.

Live Births by Midwives	.....	170
Still Births by Midwives	.....	7
		—177

VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITOR—

To Infants under one year	1st Visits	.....	386
do.	Re-Visits	.....	399
To Infants over 1 and under 5	1st Visits	.....	16
do.	Re-Visits	.....	1,071

TOTAL 1,872

ANTE-NATAL VISITS to mothers in their own home—

First Visits	.....	30
Re-Visits	.....	34
		Total 64

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major	Llanharry	Cowbridge *
Number of Sessions	24	12	13	13
Number of Names on Register	134	143	48	67
First attendances under one year	86	68	18	37
Repeat Attendances under one year	554	270	104	119
First Attendances one to five years	2	12	6	4
Repeat Attendances one to five years	106	142	54	70
TOTAL	748	492	182	230
Average Attendance per Clinic	31.1	41	14	17.7

*Excluding names on the register from Cowbridge Borough Area.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS :—

	Llanharan	Llantwit Major	Llanharry	Cowbridge *
Expectant Mothers, first attendances	43	47	17	34
Expectant mothers, repeat attendances	55	95	26	65
TOTAL	98	142	43	99
Number of Sessions	13	12	13	13
Average attendance per Clinic	7.5	11.8	3.3	7.6

* Excluding mothers from Cowbridge Borough Area.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL :—

Number of Mothers sent to Hospital for Confinement under the Council's Scheme				97
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Sale of baby food, Virol, Trufood, Ostermilk, etc., approximately £305.

Blood specimens are now being obtained from each Ante-Natal patient and sent for examination to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory for W.R. Test.

Samples of blood from ante-natal patients are also sent to the Regional Blood Transfusion Officer, Cardiff, to ascertain the blood group and RH. Factor. If RH Factor is negative an attempt is made to obtain a specimen of the husband's blood for examination.

During the year under consideration, 140 specimens were taken for the RH factor and Blood group, and 108 for the W.R. Test.

INFANT PROTECTION ACT.

One foster-mother has three children under the Ministry of Pensions Act. One in Llantwit Major has one child. One in Flemingstone has three children. All are well cared for.

DENTAL TREATMENT :—

Expectant or nursing mothers receiving Dental Treatment	.....	15
Expectant or nursing mothers receiving Dentures	.....	6
Expectant mothers Xray'd	.....	2
Children under five years receiving Dental Treatment	.....	11
Children under five years sent to Bridgend Hospital for Tonsillectomy	.....	2
Children sent for Orthopaedic treatment	.....	2
Children sent for Ophthalmic treatment	.....	1

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR—1947

SEX	AGE	DISEASE	PARENT'S OCCUPATION	RESIDENCE
Female	10 hours	1a. Patent foreamen ovale	Police Constable, Air Ministry	Llantwit Major
Male	8 hours	1a. Cardiac, respiratory failure; b. Prematurity 2. approx. 6½-7 months Gestation.	Linda Neale of No Occupation	Boverton
Male	8 hours	1a. Cardiac, respiratory failure; b. Prematurity 2. approx. 6½-7 months Gestation	Linda Neale of no Occupation	Boverton
Male	2 months	Asphyxia caused by vomit. Inquest	Labourer	Flemingstone
Female	1 month	1a. Inanition; b. Congenital Pyloric Stenosis	Stone Mason	Llantwit Major
Female	1 year	1a. Meningococcal Septicaemia. b. Meningococcal meningitis.	Group Captain, R.A.F.	St. Athan
Female	2 months	Asphyxia in a marasmic infant due to the bed-clothing covering the face. Inquest.	R.A.F. Police	St. Athan
Male	3 days	1a. Prematurity	Eunice Jenkins of no occupation.	Brynna
Male	1 month	Asphyxia due to lodgment of mucus in the throat	Garage Proprietor	St. Mary Church
Male	3 weeks	1a. Peritonitis; b. Intestinal obstruction; c. Strangulated Hernia	Assistant Storeman	St. Athan
Female	11 months	1a. Broncho Pneumonia; 11 Pink Disease	Stoker (By-Products Works)	Thomastown
Female	1 month	1a. Broncho Pneumonia; b. Gastro enteritis	Police Constable, Air Ministry	Llandough
Male	Half hour	Anencephalous	An Iron ore Miner	Llanharan
Male	1 month	1a, Lateral Sinus Thrombosis; b, Marasmus. c. Pyloric stenosis	Coal Hewer (Underground)	Thomastown
Male	23 hours	1a. Toxaemia. b. Maternal eclampsia	Factory hand	Llanharan
Male	2 weeks	1a. Asphyxia. b. Inhalation of mucous and particles of food	Fitter (Journeyman)	St. Athan
Male	1 month	1a. Gastro-enteritis. b. Prematurity	Builder's Labourer	Aberthin

Laboratory Facilities.

In addition to the facilities utilised in former years, the contents of the Dust Deposit Gauges in the area were analysed by a private Cardiff firm under contract.

Ambulance Facilities.

These remain the same as reported in former years.

Other Treatment Centres :—

Disease	Clinic
Tuberculosis	Welsh National Memorial Association Clinics at Bridgend and Pontypridd.
Venereal Disease	Clinics are held at Pontypridd, Port Talbot and Barry.
Mental Diseases	School Clinic at Bridgend and U.D. Council Clinic at Pontypridd.

Hospitals :—

(a) GENERAL HOSPITALS.

- (a) Cardiff Royal Infirmary; (b) Bridgend Cottage Hospital and
(c) Bridgend Infirmary.

(b) ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL.

The Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff has a Convalescent Hospital at Crossways, Cowbridge, at which Orthopaedic cases are treated.

(c) INFECTIOUS CASES.

Cases from this area are admitted to the Joint Hospital situate at Cefn Hirgoed, near Bridgend.

(d) MATERNITY HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES.

There are no maternity hospitals or nursing homes in the area. Cases from this district can be admitted to the Maternity Block of the Bridgend Infirmary. Difficult cases may also be removed to the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Persons not in a position to pay are, in some cases, assisted by the Council.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(a) Diphtheria.

Number of cases reported as Clinical Diphtheria	.....	.....	2
Number of cases removed to Hospital	.....	.....	2
Number of cases confirmed by bacteriological examination of swabs	.....	.....	—

It is pleasing to note that for the first time since records have been compiled in this connection, the year produced no positive cases of Diphtheria.

When a case occurs all contacts are swabbed by the Medical Practitioner attending the case by arrangement with the Council. Fumigation with formaldehyde is carried out immediately after removal.

Under the provisions of the Antitoxin Order, 1910, antitoxin is supplied free of charge from the Public Health Department of the Council.

Immunisation

The undermentioned table indicates the numbers immunised under the various age groups :—

IMMUNISATION DURING THE YEAR

1-5 years	5-15 years	Reinforcing 5-15	Total
126	4	19	149

(b) Tuberculosis

Twenty-five cases were reported for the first time during the year. There were eight deaths from the disease. All cases are periodically visited by the Health Visitor who also acts as the Tuberculosis Visitor, and by whom contacts are advised to be examined by the Tuberculosis Officer of the Welsh National Memorial Association. The premises and bedding are disinfected on removal of the case from residence as a free service.

Special Government allowances may be made in cases of interrupted income during treatment for pulmonary tuberculosis. This alleviates financial anxiety for the patient where the support of a family is concerned. On the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Officer these grants are made by the County Council to in-patients and out-patients provided the full course of treatment is followed.

(c) Scarlet Fever

Sixteen cases were reported during the year of which eleven were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

(d) Cancer

There were 17 deaths from all types of cancer.

(e) Scabies

The School Medical Officer excludes cases of scabies from the Schools in the Area. Treatment in the home is carried out by the family doctor. Severe cases are removed to hospital for treatment.

(f) Puerperal Pyrexia

One case occurred but this was not fatal.

(g) Enccephalitis Lethargica

There were no cases of enccephalitis lethargica in the area in 1947.

(h) Ophthalmia Neonatorum

No cases were reported under this heading during the year in question.

(i) Typhoid Fever

A positive case occurred in the northern part of the area in August. The patient was a youth who had been to Paris to attend lectures on Mining.

(j) Measles and Whooping Cough

Measles was epidemic during the year with 179 cases notified and probably many more cases not attended by Medical Practitioners. There were six cases of Whooping Cough.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)

A suspected case of acute anterior poliomyelitis was reported but upon further examination proved to be negative.

Contacts of positive cases which occurred in Abertillery, Carmarthen Town and Cardiff were examined and kept under surveillance.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) 1947.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases notified</i>	<i>Cases confirmed</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	16	16	11	—
Whooping Cough	6	6	—	—
Measles	179	179	—	—
Diphtheria	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia*	5	5	2	3
Dysentery	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	—
Puerperal Septicaemia	1	1	1	—
Erysipelas	2	2	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	—
TOTAL	213	210	17	3

*All types.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				†DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp'y		Respiratory		Non-Resp'y	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1				1				
1—5			2					
5—15	1		1	1				
15—25	4	4			1	2		
25—35	4	2			2			
35—45						1		
45—55	1			1				
55—65					1			
65 and over....	2		1			1		
TOTALS	12	6	4	3	4	4		

†The Registrar-General reports a total of seven deaths under this heading.

DETAILS OF CASES ON REGISTER.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Cases on Register at commencement of year	41	34	19	19
Cases on Register at end of year	49	35	23	22

CAUSES OF DEATH—1947.

The following table sets out in order details of the number of deaths under the various heads:—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	4	8
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Cancer of bac. cav. and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	1	2	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
Cancer of Breast	—	5	5
Cancer of all other Sites	4	2	6
Diabetes	—	1	1
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	7	10	17
Heart Diseases	10	8	18
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	9	—	9
Bronchitis	8	5	13
Pneumonia	1	2	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	—	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum....	2	—	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	1	1
Appendicitis	1	—	1
Other Digestive Dis.	2	—	2
Nephritis	—	2	2
Premature Birth	5	—	5
Con. mal. birth inj. infant, dis.	5	2	7
Suicide	—	2	2
Road Traffic Accident	1	—	1
Other Violent Causes	6	2	8
All Other Causes	9	12	21
TOTAL	82	63	145

SANITARY SECTION—YEAR 1947

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply

(a) PUBLIC SUPPLIES

The Mid-Glamorgan Water Board is the Water Undertaking for this area. It will be noted from the Tables in this section of the report that the Board and the Council have adopted an energetic programme throughout the years and a Public water supply is now available in 93.6 per cent. of all the houses in the area.

A number of houses in the balance of 6.4 per cent. are included in schemes submitted to the Water Board under the Rural Water and Sewerage Act, 1944, and it is hoped that approval for grant for these schemes will not be long delayed. In most cases a number of milk producing farms are included in these proposed extensions and a supply of wholesome water is also urgently needed for domestic purposes.

The summary of the samples taken during the year indicates the water supplied by the Board to be satisfactory as regards Bacterial quality.

The Public Water Supplies are not liable to plumbo solvent action.

(b) PRIVATE SUPPLIES

PEMBROKE STREET WATER SUPPLY—This supply gave cause for further complaint during the first part of the year and the position became so serious in August that a temporary standpipe had to be provided from the mains of the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Rural District Council.

The owners of the water undertaking had diverted untreated river water into the supply and this water, without treatment, was mixed with the spring water serving the street. The Council took a very serious view of this matter and a special emergency meeting of representatives of the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board and Council met on the site and within a week the old unsatisfactory supply had been cut off and water from the public mains of the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre R.D.C. connected up. Finally the private water undertaker transferred his interest in the service to the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board and the matter was brought to a successful conclusion.

POOLS.—Llanmaes pool and Gilestone Pool were inspected during the year when they were both found to be in an insanitary condition. The owners, or reputed owners, were contacted and their agreement given to the filling in and sealing off of the pools. The Glamorgan Council were approached with a request that they pipe the surface water through the pools and fill them in with materials from road improvements in the area.

PUBLIC WELLS

The top of the Public Well at Llanmaes Village was repaired during the year.

Number of inspections made during the year in connection with water supplies	244
Number of informal notices	38
Work carried out	20
Number of Properties provided with water under pressure	56
Percentage of houses in area connected to Public Water Mains	93.6
<i>(Including 68 houses serviced by a private water undertaking.)</i>	

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for 1947 (Llanharan Station)	42.44 ins.
Rainfall for 1947 (St. Athan Station)	34.36 ins.
Average rainfall for last five years (Llanharan)	51.13 ins.
Average rainfall for last 5 years (St. Athan Station)	38.79 ins.

WATER SAMPLES.

(a) Public Supplies.

<i>Samples taken from</i> No. <i>Tap at</i>	<i>Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>
1. Greenfield Farm, Maendy	————	Satisfactory
2. Corner House, Ystradowen	————	Satisfactory
3. Picton Terrace, Llanharan	————	Fairly satisfactory
4. Argoed Council House, Llanharry	————	Satisfactory
5. Town Mill, Cowbridge	————	Satisfactory
6. Ynysmardy Houses	————	Satisfactory
7. Llanharry School	————	Total organisms numerous but quantitative results satisfactory.

(b) *Private Supplies*

<i>Ref. No.</i>	<i>Sample taken from</i>	<i>Chemical Analysis</i>	<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>
1	Well at Bwlch Gwyn, Ystradowen	—	Moderate Bacterial Purity.
2	Mountain spring at Argoed Edwin, Llanharan	Apprec. amount veg. tissue, debris, oxide of iron, diatoms, rotifers.	Satisfactory
3	Pipe from spring Stalling- down, Cowbridge	—	Moderate Bacterial Purity
4	Morfa Farm, Llantwit Major	—	Total organisms numerous quantita- tive results fairly satisfactory.
5	Castleton Farm, St. Athan	—	Satisfactory
6	Rainwater cistern Peny- waun Bungalows, Llanharry	—	Unsatisfactory
7	Water Cistern at Morfa Bungalow, Llantwit Major	—	Moderate
8	Shallow well in field Sandy Lane Cottage, Ystradowen	—	Unsatisfactory
9	Spring shallow well serving Parc Bach, Llanharry	—	Fairly satisfactory
10	12 Seymour Avenue, Llanharan	—	Fairly satisfactory
11	Pembroke Street, Thomastown	—	Fairly satisfactory
12	Then Bungalow, Coedely Colliery	—	Moderate Bacterial purity.
13	3, Pembroke Street, Thomastown	—	Moderate Bacterial purity.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF HOUSES IN EACH PARISH
SERVICED WITH MAINS WATER 1947

				<i>No. of dwellinghouses</i>	<i>No. of dwellinghouses</i>	
				<i>in the Parish</i>	<i>connected to Mains</i>	
Llantwit Major				732	....	708
St. Athan				233	....	225
Gileston				16	....	14
St. Donats				17	....	16
Marcross				21	....	13
Monknash				16	....	14
Llanmihangel				10	....	7
Llanmaes				48	....	48
Llanfair				42	....	36
Eglwysbrewis				14	....	12
Flemingstone				19	....	18
Llysworney				46	....	43
Nash				3	....	1
Llandow				36	....	36
St. Andrews Minor				2	....	'2
Stembridge				1	....	1
Colwinstone				60	....	52
Llanblethian				227	....	207
St. Hilary				42	....	40
Ystradowen				56	....	45
Penllyne				74	....	68
St. Mary Hill				43	....	37
Llangan				67	....	67
Llanilid				28	....	22
Llanharry				198	....	193
Llanharan				581	....	562
Peterstone-super-Montem				430	....	399
Llansannor				49	....	38
TOTALS				3,121	....	2,931

2. Housing

1. HOUSING ACT, 1936. SECTION 11 (DEMOLITION ORDER, ETC.)

(a) Houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted by the Council during the year 1947	10
(b) Demolition Orders made during year	4
(c) Tenants of condemned houses rehoused in Council houses.....	5
(d) Houses subject to Demolition Orders or Undertakings still occupied at 31st December, 1947	26
(e) Houses where proposals to execute works were accepted	2

2. RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

The survey has been proceeding throughout the year. The classifications of the inspections made up to the 31st December, 1947, are as follows :—

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Houses 'satisfactory in all respects	220	38.26
Houses with minor repairs	101	17.43
Houses requiring structural alterations	106	18.43
Houses unfit and incapable of repair at a reasonable expense.....	148	25.78
TOTAL	575	100.00

As the survey is, at present, limited to the older dwellings the above figures may be misleading.

3. REPAIRS

Difficulty is still experienced in the remedying of defects required by notice. This is particularly noticeable in the northern portion of the area where there are no building contractors. In most cases the owners are anxious to comply with the notice but are prevented from doing so by the absence of Building Contractors.

4. NEW HOUSES

The Council is proceeding with their programme for the provision of dwelling houses to meet general needs and to alleviate overcrowding. A synopsis of the position at the end of 1947 is given below :—

	<i>Council Schemes</i>	<i>Private Enterprise</i>
Houses completed and occupied	31	10
Partly Completed	81	6
Sanctioned but not commenced	112	*27
	224	43

*Plans approved under Building Byelaws.

Occupation of Military Camps

(a) BOVERTON

Sanitary improvements have been carried out to the huts on this site. Slop water sinks with a tap from the mains water supply and drainage have been supplied to each hut. The felt roofs were also repaired.

(b) ST. MARY HILL

The conditions at this camp are very primitive and the huts are quite unfit and unsuitable for human occupation. The Council decided to demolish any hut which was vacated in order to prevent further occupation by squatters.

(c) CASTLETON CAMP

Towards the end of the year the Council's attention was drawn to the occupation of a site to the South of St. Athan R.A.F. Station, near Castleton Farm. Inspections were made when it was found that no mains water, sanitary conveniences or drainage was available and no cooking arrangements were provided.

The camp was still under the requisition of the Air Ministry and no steps could be taken by the Council to improve the conditions.

(d) LLANDOW CAMP

Towards the end of the year a letter was received from the Welsh Board of Health offering the Council the transfer of suitable huts on requisitioned sites to the South of Llandow R.A.F. Station. A preliminary inspection of these huts was made and it was found that they were of a much improved construction to the other camps and in addition mains water and sewers were available as well as electric light.

The Council decided to take over the huts in accordance with the provision of Circular 20/46 (Wales).

Drainage and Sewerage

(a) TYLAGARW SEWER

The work on the Sewerage Scheme for this portion of the area, was commenced during the year.

Notices of proposed connections and conversions under Section 42 and 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were served upon the owners of 44 properties adjacent to the new sewer.

Notices requiring the construction of new closets were served upon the owner of 11 properties and the owners of eight other properties agreed to construct new closet buildings nearer the houses concerned.

(b) ST. ATHAN AND GILESTON SCHEME NO. 3

No further progress has been made in connection with this scheme. A survey of the drainage and sanitary conveniences at Gileston was carried out during the year and is summarised overleaf:—

<i>Water Closets and Cesspools</i>	<i>Closets other than Water Closets</i>	<i>Insanitary Drainage</i>	<i>Total Houses</i>
9	9	9	18

(c) LLANBLETHIAN, ABERTHIN AND COWBRIDGE SCHEME

No further progress has been made in this important scheme. Inspections of the existing drainage in these areas indicate the urgency of a sewer in the interest of Public Health.

ANALYSIS OF SEWAGE AND EFFLUENT FROM THE COUNCIL'S DISPOSAL WORKS

A summary of the analyses carried out by the County Council of the crude sewage and effluent from the Council's Disposal Works is given below :—

<i>Disposal Works</i>	<i>Samples of Effluent Satisfactory</i>	<i>Samples of Effluent Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total Samples taken</i>
Llanharan	8	1	9
Brynna	2	5	7
Llanharry	2	5	7
Ynysmardy		6	6
TOTALS	12	17	29

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SCHEME—The Council decided to seek the approval of the Welsh Board of Health to the purchase of a suitable cesspool emptying vehicle.

DRAINAGE WORKS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Connections to Public Sewer :			
Brynna	.....	.....	2
Llanharry	.....	.....	10
St. Athan	.....	.....	5
Llantwit Major and Boverton			26
			— 43
(b) Provision of New Drainage and/or Cesspools			
	.....	.....	11
(c) Inspection of Drainage, Sewers and Sewage Disposal Works			
	.....		256

SCHEDULE SHOWING MODE OF DRAINAGE DISPOSAL OF HOUSES IN AREA AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

<i>Total Houses</i>	<i>Drainage</i>		
	<i>To Sewer</i>	<i>To Cesspool</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory or no Drainage</i>
3,122	1,655	530	937

Closet Accommodation

(a) Number of earth closets converted to water carriage system 6

(b) Number of water closets provided to new dwellings 41

SCHEDULE SHOWING TYPES OF CLOSETS IN AREA AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1947.

<i>Water Closets</i>	<i>Earth Closets, Vaults etc.</i>	<i>Total</i>
2,077	1,045	3,122

Public Cleansing

(a) PROPOSED NEW SCHEME

The Council considered a comprehensive report on a scheme for the collection of refuse by direct labour and incorporating cesspool emptying which was the subject of a joint report made during the previous year. The Council accepted this scheme in principle and decided to seek the approval of the Welsh Board of Health to the borrowing of the necessary capital for the equipment and garage accommodation.

The scheme included bin provision by the Council as a charge on the rates but the Committee decided not to implement this at the present time.

(b) EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS

The contracts remain similar to the previous year although the use of the old public bins at Tynybryn were discontinued and a twice weekly collection carried out in substitution. The Contract for Llanharan village was terminated by agreement and another Contractor undertook to carry out the work during the remaining period of the Contract.

Daily collections are made at Pembroke Street, Thomastown, Llanharan and Brynna Village; Llanharry, Coedcae Lane and Ynysmardy have a twice-weekly collection and the remainder of the area is serviced once per week.

The Council, as Agent for the Air Ministry collect refuse from the Royal Air Force Station, St. Athan.

A survey of the number of houses provided with satisfactory household bins was made during the year and results are summarised below :—

<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>Houses with Satisfactory Bins</i>	<i>Houses needing New Bins</i>
2,967	392	2,575

SCAVENGING OF STREETS AND HIGHWAYS : This work is carried out by the Glamorgan County Council by agreement. In addition the Council employs a part-time labourer for the cleansing of the Streets at Llantwit Major on Sundays.

DISPOSAL

Trenos Controlled Tipping Site is still used for the majority of the refuse in the northern portion of the area, while Llanmihangel is used for the southern parishes.

As a result of Foot and Mouth Disease outbreaks at several farms in the area in June and July, 1947, all refuse collected and vehicles used had to be thoroughly disinfected upon arrival at the disposal sites. The whole of the surface of the various tips were also sprayed with disinfectant.

SALVAGE

Collection of salvage is still made in the larger villages. The total collected in 1947 is as shown below :—

<i>Description of Salvage</i>	<i>Quantity Sold</i>			<i>Receipts</i>		
	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	£	s.	d.
Cardboard	6	12	1	39	17	9
Waste Paper	11	5	3	75	0	4
Selected Paper	2	10	1	18	4	3
Rags		11	0	5	10	0
Bagging and Twine		7	0		11	10
TOTALS	21	6	1	139	4	2

This is a considerable reduction compared with the figures for the year 1946.

Eradication of Domestic Pests

(a) BED BUGS.—No action to disinfest houses was found necessary during the year.

(b) RODENTS.—The scheme for the treatment of infested private dwellings at the expense of the Council and the Ministry of Food was continued during the first part of the year. In all some 138 premises (including 12 business premises) were treated. Subsequent inspections disclosed that in the majority of cases the first treatments had been successful.

The Public sewers were treated twice during the year and the refuse disposal site was also treated.

Shops

No action was found necessary in connection with the Shops Act, 1934, nor the Public Health Act, 1936, as far as it relates to shops.

Factories Act, 1937

Four informal notices were served in respect of insufficient or defective sanitary conveniences at Factories within the area.

The Council commenced the construction of a Public Sewer in the Tylagarw area and when completed this will provide drainage for a furniture factory and a joinery works.

(a) INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Notices</i>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Council	4	5	Nil
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 only is enforced by the Council	31	44	4
TOTAL	35	49	4

(2) CASES WHERE DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	Nil.	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	Nil.	—
Unreasonable Temperatures (S.3)	—	Nil.	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)....	—	Nil.	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	Nil.	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :			
(a) insufficient	1	1	
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	2
(c) Not separate for Sexes	—	Nil.	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- work)	—	Nil.	—
TOTAL	2	2	2

Petroleum

No prosecutions were necessary during the year.

Camping Sites

As the southern portion of the area borders the Bristol Channel with its many beautiful bays there is a natural attraction for campers. Three Camping sites are licensed by the Council under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Smoke Abatement

In view of the rural nature of the area and the absence of any large factories in the locality no steps were found necessary under this heading.

Cinemas

There are two Public Cinemas in the area Licenced by the Council. One is a modern building incorporating all modern requirements while the other is a Class C. building built with temporary materials.

Periodical inspections are made of these buildings. The Council considered a report on the temporary building and asked for certain improvements to be carried out. These were in hand at the end of the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The only public swimming bath in the area is controlled by the Cowbridge Borough Council and sited on the River Thaw North of the Borough. It was not extensively used during the year now reviewed.

A number of advisory inspections were made at privately operated swimming baths and six samples taken for examination. As a result of these visits improvements were recommended in the plant and methods of control.

Dust Nuisance

The investigations into the dust nuisance from the Aberthaw and Bristol Channel Cement Works were continued and the Chief Inspector of Alkali Works, Ministry of Health submitted a detailed report based on the observations made by the Cardiff and Cowbridge Rural District Councils.

The investigations took place over the year commencing November, 1946, and ending in October, 1947.

There were four dust deposit gauges set up around the works (Two in the Cardiff Rural area and two in the Cowbridge Rural Area).

In February, 1947, the slurry driers in kiln number 1 were replaced by the claim system, while in April, 1947, No. 3 kiln was similarly altered and a new Micron Precipitator installed in place of the old cyclone precipitator.

In a table attached to the report the reduction in the deposition of calcium after March, 1947, was plainly shown. (The average rate of deposition up to March 31st, was nearly three times that from April 1st onwards). This table also showed that rather less pollution was deposited in non-industrial districts of neighbouring cities than in the Aberthaw area. The deposits of chlorides at Aberthaw may be partly due to the nearness of the sea.

It is quite clear from the tables that a very considerable decrease in deposited calcium occurred between March and April, 1947, without any accompanying decrease in deposited undissolved matter. The decrease in calcium must be a result of the modification in February and April in the plant at the Aberthaw Works.

CONCLUSION

Soluble calcium deposits provide an indication of the amount of emission from a cement works. These showed a marked improvement since the end of March when the new equipment, which had been installed, began working under proper conditions. Allowing for an inevitable deposit which occurs anywhere it appears that the excess calcium deposit had been reduced from 14 per cent. to 30 per cent. of its former value. The figures for total solid deposit, too, in comparison with other places indicate the absence of any gross pollution.

The information gathered from the gauges indicated that conditions in the area cannot now be considered unsatisfactory and supports the view expressed by complainants that there has been a substantial improvement.

Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1938.

No further news of the Government's intention to establish a Civil Aerodrome at the Royal Air Force Station at Llandow was received.

Schools

On the instructions of the Council a Sanitary Survey was carried out of the 13 Elementary and one Secondary Schools in the area. The results are summarised below :—

WATER SUPPLY

Each School is connected to the public mains of the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board, but facilities for providing drinking water for the pupils is not entirely satisfactory.

DRAINAGE

Five of the schools are connected to the Council's Public Sewer and one—St. Athan—is within a reasonable distance for a connection to be made. The Cowbridge Girls' High School has a private sewage disposal plant. Five schools have cesspool drainage which is, in the main, satisfactory. The remaining three schools have soakaways or drainage with unknown outlets.

CLOSETS

Those schools connected to the Public Sewer and the Cowbridge Girls' High School have water closets. Marcross School has hand-flushed short hopper pans connected to a cesspool. The remaining schools all have pail closets which are emptied once or twice a week as the occasion demands. The excreta is buried in the land or garden adjoining the school premises. Most of the schools not provided with water closets have sufficient ground, either attached to the school or adjoining, for the construction of adequate disposal plant or cesspools to take the drainage from water closets.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

All schools receive a collection of refuse at least once weekly.

The report was forwarded to the Glamorgan County Council with a strong recommendation for improvements in those schools without water closets and satisfactory drainage.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

It may be of interest to record in this Report the vast increase in milk production which has taken place in this area during the past 37 years.

In 1910 there were only 24 registered milk producers in the area. During the 1914-18 war this was reduced to 18. From 1921 to 1930 there was a steady increase (approximately 10 per annum) in the number of farmers turning over to milk production. From 1931 to 1933, however, there was a sharp increase in registered milk producers (From 136 in 1931 to 215 in 1933). There was a continued increase until 1941, but during the war years the position was fairly static presumably due to the hardening of the prices for beef and corn and the difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of suitable feeding stuffs.

At the present time the district is one of the principal milk-producing areas in Glamorgan, and the inspection of premises, sampling and advisory work on remodelling of cowsheds, etc., forms an important function of the Health Department.

1. *Milk Supply.*

(a) No. of Inspections made at Cowsheds, Dairies, etc.	519
(b) No. of Informal Notices Issued	22
(c) Work carried out	16
(d) Number of farms connected to Public Water Supply during 1497	Nil
(e) <i>Water Supply to Milk Producing Farms—</i>	
(i) Number of farms connected to Public Mains	232
(ii) Number of farms with Private Water Supplies	50

2. *Registrations : Milk and Dairies Order, 1926 :—*

(a) Applications for Registration—	
(i) Producers	13
(ii) Farms as Dairies	13
(iii) Purveyors of milk	3
(b) Registration cancelled by reason of ceasing to produce milk	
(i) Producers	9
(ii) Farms as Dairies	9
(iii) Retail Purveyors of Milk	4

(c) Number of Producers registered	.....	.....	282
(d) Number of Farms as Dairies	.....	.....	282
(e) Retail Purveyors of Milk	.....	.....	102
(f) Wholesale traders	.....	.....	1

3.—*Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-46.*

Licences issued by the District Council.

Number of Pasteuriser's Licences in force during 1947	1
Number of Supplementary Licences do.	2
Number of Dealer's Licences do.	2

Licences issued by the Glamorgan County Council

Number of Tuberculin Tested Licences issued	.....	16
Number of Accredited Licences issued	.....	21

Milk Samples

342 samples of milk were taken for examination during the year in question. The 33 samples taken for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli gave negative results. An extension of this scheme to allow for further samples to be taken under this head is advocated. On the present annual allowance it would take almost ten years to sample from all the producers within this area.

Tuberculin Tested Milk

In December, 1937, a questionnaire was addressed to the 11 producers in the area holding Tuberculin Tested herd licences, asking how their milk was disposed of. The results of this investigation is given below :—

			<i>Daily Gallonage</i>
Sold to Dairies for mixing with Ungraded Milk and			
Pasteurised	.....	.....	427
Retailed	.....	.....	73
Total Tuberculin Tested Milk produced in December, 1947			500

It seems very desirable that this milk should be diverted for sale by retail in the area, or in adjoining areas, in place of ungraded milks.

(a) Examination of Milk Tubercle Bacilli

Number giving positive results	.....	.....	Nil
Number giving negative results	.....	.....	33
Total Samples taken under this head	.....	.....	33

(b) *National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme*

Number of samples in Category A	155
Number of samples in Category B	31
Number of samples in Category C	54
Total samples taken under this head	240

(c)* *Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-43.*

(a) Pasteurised Milk Samples—Satisfactory in all respects	29
Unsatisfactory	2
Total samples taken under this head	31

(d) *Samples of Untreated Milk* Forty-eight samples of untreated milk were taken for bacteriological examination during 1947. The results are summarised as follows :—

Number of samples satisfying the methylene blue test	41
Number of samples failing methylene blue test	7
Number satisfactory in B Coli	37
Number unsatisfactory in B. Coli	11
Total Samples under this head	342

* The Glamorgan County Council (as the Food and Drugs Authority) now samples from the Milk Pasteurising Plant in this Area under Defence Regulation 55G.

Foods and Drugs Act, 1938

The number of new applications, cancellations and transfers of Registered Premises for the manufacture and sale of sausages preserved foods and Ice Cream are as follows :—

<i>Registrations</i>	<i>New Applications</i>	<i>Cancellations</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>No. on Register at end of year</i>
For the preparation and manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale	—	—	—	15
Ice Cream Manufacturers	—	10	—	9
Retailers	1	6	1	14

Ice Cream. The Council set up a special Public Health Subcommittee to deal with the above subject. They agreed upon the standard of equipment and type of premises needed to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The Council's requirements were circularised to all manufacturers and purveyors of ice cream in the area.

Samples of ice cream were taken during the year, but, as the majority of manufacturers had difficulty in obtaining the necessary equipment, they were of an advisory nature.

The Ministry of Health introduced a provisional bacterial grading for ice cream.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED DURING 1947.

The following meat and other foodstuffs were condemned during 1947. The unsound foods were disposed of to the Ministry of Food instructions.

<i>Description of Foodstuffs</i>						<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Fish	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	287	7
Butter	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	13
Margarine	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	8
Cereals	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	556	7
Tin Vegetables	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76	12
Cocoa	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4
Jams, etc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	6
Dried Fruit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	13
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10
Tin Milk	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	226	1
Sauce	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4½
Sugar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	0
Bacon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	29	4
Tin Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	239	2
Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	717	10
Lamb	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	181	12
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1583	4½
TOTAL						4,106	6

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

	No. of Inspections	Informal Notices.	Work done	Work in hand	Work not done	Statutory Notices	Work done	Work not done	Work in hand	Demolition Orders
Sewers & Sewage Disposal	256	2	1	1						
Drains Inspection and Testing	255	35	17	1	16	43			43	
Meat and other Foods	235									
Cowsheds, Dairies Milk- shops	519									
Housing ...	985	99	23	17	59					
Housing Recorded Inspections	337									16
Nuisances and Rats and Mice Acts	676	120	23	22	75	47	6	4	37	
Infectious Disease Insp's	99									
Disinfections	61									
Workshops, Factories	49	4	2	2						
House Refuse Collection and Disposal	658	2	2							
Water Supplies	244	38	20	3	15					
Cinemas	7	1		1						
Works in Progress	106									
General	917	84	22	5	57					
TOTAL	5374	385	110	52	222	90	6	4	80	16

Note.—The above excludes works carried out by the Council's Work Department on Council Houses.



